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KNOW YOUR ROOTS

A Family That Doesn't Know Its Past Doesn't Understand Itself

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CRANE

APRIL 2002

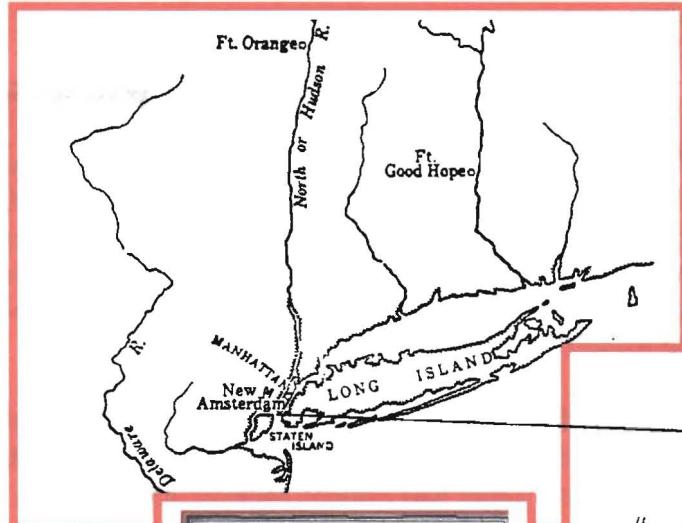
WHAT DO

JASPER CRANE

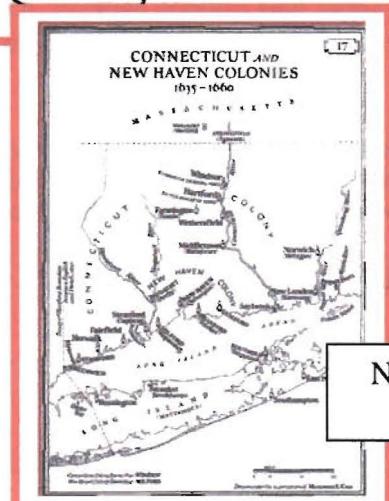
ROBERT TREAT

WILLIAM MEEKER have in common?

A HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE



Map showing proximity
of
New Haven 1637
to
New Amsterdam
controlled by the Dutch



New Haven Colony , Milford, and
Branford

THE BEGINNING

I would venture to say that when you were studying about the Puritans coming to these shores, you never realized that some of those Puritans were your ancestors.

It all began during the time of James I in England when John Davenport was an assistant in St. Stephen's Church in London. King James charged him with Puritanism, which the King vehemently opposed. However, it is said that Davenport denied it.

Nevertheless, to escape the disapproval of the Crown, in November of 1633 Davenport fled to Amsterdam in Holland, known at that time as a country of tolerance for all. Davenport and his group didn't want to lose their English identity with Puritan ideals so he organized a group to move to the New World. It was to be a Utopian experiment.

In that group were Jasper Crane who was steward of John Davenport's company and another ancestor of ours from the Durland side that you know nothing about, John Budd. They arrived in New Haven in 1637. In 1642 Jasper Crane led a group to settle on the Delaware River. However, records show that the Dutch threw them out, and in 1652 he moved on to Branford and for a time settled there.

Robert Treat was brought to these shores by his father only 15 years after the Pilgrims landed at Plymouth Rock. He settled in Milford in 1639 when Milford and New Haven were united. He soon became a friend of Jasper Crane, an alliance that would make history in the future.

William Meeker settled in New Haven and was married there in 1646. He is listed in 1646 as a member of "The Meeting House." A Robert Meeker became one of the first families of Branford.

The Puritans had fled from intolerance in England and erected their own colony in the new world to continue with their beliefs. The chief towns were New Haven, Milford, and Branford. In 1662 when the New Haven Colony was merged with Connecticut by the King's order, the New Haven theocracy vanished. These Puritan pioneers of over 40 years who had striven to set up their Puritan ideals in a new land had failed, but two of our ancestors, Jasper Crane and Robert Treat, would try again in another area.

The answer to the question on the cover is: Through Mary Ann Crane all three of the men are our ancestors. Jasper Crane's son Azariah married Mary Treat, daughter of Robert Treat. Obadiah Meeker Crane's mother was Phoebe Meeker, a descendant of William Meeker. Obadiah Meeker Crane is the father of Mary Ann Crane.

Ed. note Puritanism arose in the 16th century within the Church of England. It demanded reforms in doctrine and worship. It included greater strictness of religious discipline and became more excessive in religious matters and a moral sense. In the 17th century it became a powerful political party.

JASPER CRANE BRANFORD

Sources on the birth of Jasper Crane are not consistent. One said he was probably baptized in Welwyn Hertfordshire, England in 1602. Another said he was born 1605 at Bradley Plain, Hampshire England.

Whatever date we accept as his birth, we need to conclude that he was a young man when he joined others to journey to the new world. He was a vestryman at St. Stephens Church in London when undoubtedly he became friends with John Davenport who he would follow to the New Haven Colony. There, he became a surveyor, merchant as well as a magistrate.

The first factual item concerning Jasper Crane is his signature on the compact founding the Colony of New Haven signed June 4, 1639 in the barn of a Mr. Newman.

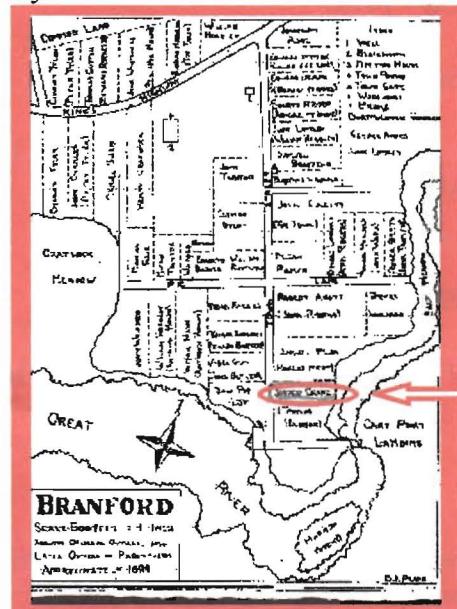
In fact with a Mr. Myles, Jasper laid out most of the New Haven town plots. His property of 100 acres of land in the East Meadow was taxed at L480 in the 1643 division of land report. That was a very comfortable sum in those days. It is said that that he located grants, established division lines, and settled disputed titles.

Please refer to Page 2 of the Crane newsletter of the year 2000 which illustrates the list of landowners of New Haven along with the map of the area which Jasper Crane laid out.

There is a considerable record of Jasper's public life that shows him to be a well-respected leader of that community.

But in 1652 he went to Branford, a nearby colony, and established

residence there. In Branford he also became quite prominent. In 1653 he represented Branford at the General Court in New Haven. In 1658 he was elected a magistrate of the New Haven Colonies and served for 5 years. In 1664-5 he was chosen justice of the County Court of the Colonies and served as a magistrate to the Connecticut Colony.



The exact date that Jasper took his leave of Branford has not been definitely established. In the spring of 1666 the people of Branford became dissatisfied about the union of the New Haven and Connecticut Colonies and particularly on account of granting the right of suffrage to inhabitants not members of the church resolved to move.

They had sent agents who came back bringing favorable reports of a new territory close by. On January 30, 1667 Jasper disposed of his property in Branford.

ROBERT TREAT

MILFORD

Robert Treat came with his father Richard when he was very young just 15 years after the Pilgrims landed on Plymouth Rock. He was born 1624/25 in Pitminster, Somerset, England. His mother was Alice Gaylord. His genealogy reaches back for many ages.

1 John (Treat) Trott Bef.

1458 - 1479

2 William (Treat) Trott

Abt. 1489 - 1540

+unknown

3 Richard (Trott) Treat 1510

- Abt. 1571

+Joanna 1512 - 1577

4 Robert (Trott) Treat -

1597/98

+Honora

5 Richard Treat 1584 - 1669

+Alice Gaylord - 1670

6 Robert Treat 1624 - 1710

+Jane Tapp

This information is from the Treat family pedigree and is interesting from the standpoint of its continuity.

Robert's father Richard was an early settler of Wethersfield, Connecticut and a patentee of the royal charter granted in 1662.

Richard helped in the settlement of Milford in 1629-40, New Haven Colony. He was twice married; his first wife was Jane Tapp, a daughter of Edmund Tapp, one of the founders of the church in Milford.

There is a legend which appears in the history books. It seems that, like brave men generally, Treat appears to have been exceedingly timid and backward in the presence of the fair sex. It seems that he was extremely backward

in coming to the main point – a proposal of marriage. There is an account saying that once, while familiarly dancing with his future wife on his knee, as was permissible by their disparity of age and long intimacy, the damsel brought her lover to a prompt decision by the suggestive expostulation: "Robert, be still. I'd rather be Treated than trotted."

He married Jane Tapp in 1649 and they had eight children, one of them being Mary.

While in Milford he became a prominent citizen, serving in the colonial assembly and on the governor's council. By 1653 he was regularly elected deputy from Milford to the General Court of the Colony. In 1654 he was chosen lieutenant and chief military officer of the town. From here he advanced to magistrate in 1659 and was annually re-elected until 1664. As you can see he was a prominent member of Milford.

The New Haven colonies included not only Milford but also Branford, Guilford, and others. However, a new royal charter by the King ceased their independence. Just as it was with Jasper Crane, some settlers of Milford also became disenchanted with the new royal charter.

So we find Robert Treat taking leave for a few years with Jasper Crane in 1666 going to New Jersey and founding the city of Newark. This is the beginning of our ancestry with the Treat family, for it is his daughter Mary who married Azariah Crane, the son of Jasper Crane, in 1663 in Newark.

JASPER CRANE AND ROBERT TREAT TOGETHER NEWARK, NEW JERSEY

When the New Haven Colonies, which included Branford and Milford, could no longer continue with their free theocracy without orders from the Crown they looked for other lands where they would be apart from the royal orders.

Robert Treat and Jasper Crane went to New Amsterdam to see Governor Peter Stuyvesant regarding a place of settlement as early as 1661. This expedition was thwarted

The first group of settlers left New Haven Bay for Newark some time before the middle of May 1666. They arrived in two vessels, and maybe more to transport them and their goods. They found a few humble houses. There they announced the headquarters of the government of the new colony. These pioneer settlers were headed by a mastermind, Robert Treat, now a Captain. With him were heads of several families from Milford.

Captain Robert Treat had scanned the Jersey shores for a favorable landing place. He did not have a letter of consent from Governor Cateret so the Indians refused to let them settle. The Hackensack Indians said, "You trespass on our land. These shores belong to us. In the forests are our fame; in the streams, our fish. Our feet for untold moons have trod yonder plains that you behold. No one shall sell this land, the domain of the Hackensacks." But negotiations were opened with the Indians and a title was purchased from them July 11, 1667.

Newark history notes that the settlers paid the Indians for every foot of land, namely about \$700 for what is now

Essex County plus "fifty double hands of powder, one hundred barrel of lead, twenty Axes, twenty Coates, ten Guns, twenty pistols, ten kettles, ten Swords, four blankets, four barrels of beere, ten paire of breeches, fifty knives, twenty bowes, eight hundred and fifty fathem of wampem, two Ankors of Licquers and three troopers Coates." The bill of sale was not signed until July 11, 1667. It was called a straightforward business transaction.

By January 30, 1667 Jasper Crane had disposed of his property in Branford and had taken up residence in Newark.

At a town meeting in Newark, held January 1668, he and Robert Treat were chosen magistrates for the coming years and also deputies or burgesses for the General Assembly for the same year. Robert Treat was the first recorder or town clerk. For many years both men were exceedingly prominent in all public occasions, holding many public positions.

Both Jasper Crane and Robert Treat worked together several years to develop Newark. Each had his own particular expertise to contribute to the area's development. Both are considered founders of Newark

Jasper Crane grew old in Newark and died a very old man in 1680 but his contributions were many. He and his wife Alice Leave had seven children, among them Azariah our ancestor.

Robert Treat returned to Milford in 1672 where he continued with his public life.

ROBERT TREAT RETURNS TO MILFORD

Robert later returned to Milford in 1672. Besides taking a commanding military position in early colonial Indian warfare, Treat served the Colony of Milford for thirty-two years as Deputy Governor and Governor.

History books relate that at the "Battle of Bloody Brook," between the Indians and the Colonists, Major Treat commanded the latter and behaved heroically.

He is known to have been "an excellent military officer: a man of singular courage and resolution, tempered with caution and prudence. His administration of government was with wisdom, firmness and integrity. He was esteemed, courageous, wise and pious. He was exceedingly beloved and venerated by the people in general and especially by his neighbors at Milford."

He was very generous to his children and built the house below for his daughter Mary who married Azariah Crane.



His exploits and the offices are too numerous to mention in this short story but he was governor of the area in 1683, an office he held until 1698 when he stepped down to the deputy-governorship, a post that he held until he

died on July 12, 1710. He is buried in the Old Burying Ground at Milford.

His wife, Jane Tapp Treat and mother of Mary Treat Crane preceded him in death in 1703.

There is a monument (pictured below) dedicated to Robert Treat in Milford.



In fact, in Milford there is even a hotel, The Robert Treat.



The placard speaks for itself. So if you ever visit Milford, Connecticut be sure and take the historical tour and stay in the Robert Treat Hotel commemorating one of your ancestors, Robert Treat.

CRANE NAMESAKES

With such an ancestor as Jasper Crane, who was so vital in the beginning of this country, I wondered how many had continued with the Crane name. So I set out to search my records for the answer. I knew it was a common practice in families to give male children their mother or grandmother's maiden name. This was especially prevalent for the Dutch naming custom. Would this hold true with the Crane name? Would a girl ever be given a grandmother's maiden name? I found this answer in my records. A daughter of Robert Durland and Mary Ann Crane, Eliza Ann Durland Hancock, named her first child, a female, Jessie Crane Hancock. That answer was yes.

Then I looked for the Crane males. I didn't find the name Crane in any of the subsequent children of Robert and Mary Ann except maybe William, a son whose second son could be Robert C. Durland. The C. could stand for Crane.

However, in our family I found a number of Cranes. First Harry's brother was named Oscar Crane Durland. Oscar had three children. The first one was a girl, Betsey.



This picture is Betsey with her husband Dr. Philip Davis and her two sons, neither of which seems to have carried on the name Crane, nor her daughter Betsy (the former spelled Betsey the latter just Betsy.).

However, Oscar's second child was a son who was given the name of his father and so became Oscar Crane Durland Jr. Unfortunately this son only lived to be six months old.

In the next generation after Oscar in our family, I find that Oscar's eldest brother Charles had continued with the name. Charles named his second son Harold Crane Durland and Harold Crane went on to name his son Richard Crane Durland.

But there in my records the name stops. I realize that these namesakes were probably named after Mary Ann Crane but again I wonder.

Even though Harry Durland had only daughters, he certainly was aware that his grandmother was a Crane. He also knew that Oscar was a Crane namesake and he knew that Harold had the second name of Crane. Maybe he thought that the name Crane was too masculine for a female. But he must have known that his Aunt Eliza had used the name for her daughter. At any rate, not one of Harry's family at the present time carries the name Crane.

There are many children to come and many to be named. I submit that with the fine old name of Crane and its historical significance to our family, any child in the future would be happy to say when asked where the name of Crane came from, he or she could answer with pride, "It's from an ancestor Jasper Crane who was one of the original settlers of this country in 1637."

MARY'S MESSAGES



The history in this issue has been thoroughly documented. I did not include the references because I didn't want to make the stories too scholarly but if any of my readers are interested, I will be happy to supply the background data about Jasper Crane and Robert Treat because they are famous enough to be included in the history books.

When Mary Treat, daughter of Robert, married Azariah Crane, son of Jasper, the name of Treat did not continue for us because she became a Crane. (*I hang my head in shame. The wrong marriage date in the 2001 Crane issue for Mary Treat and Azariah Crane is incorrect. It should be 1678 - please change it.*) Nonetheless, Mary's father Robert is our ancestor because Mary is.

The name of Treat goes no further with us nor does the name Tapp. The Tapp name came into our history because Jane Tapp was Mary Treat's mother. Jane's father was Edmund Tapp, another early colonizer.

The Crane name was carried on through to Mary Ann Crane because we are descendant from Crane males but the name stops when Mary Ann married Robert Durland.

So please keep that in mind because there are many wives' names in

our ancestry, which means that their fathers' names are part of our history.

The only name that is not relevant for everyone is that of Joseph Northrup. That history only applies to Carolyn and Christopher's father Peter Northrup whereas all the others apply to their mother Maribeth Kauss. I included Joseph Northrup because it is such a coincidence that Carolyn and Christopher have ancestors who not only arrived at the same time 300 years ago but also who must have known one another.

In the future the background of the Treat and Tapp families will require research within England

I have found some origins of familiar but strange sayings originating in the 16th century so one by one I'm going to print them.

"A big tub was filled with hot water for baths. The man of the house had the privilege of the first bath, with its nice, clean water. All of the other sons and men went next, then the women, and finally the children and babies. By the last bath, the water was so dirty, you could actually lose someone in it." Consequently, "Don't throw the baby out with the bath water."

Another kudo for a family member. Emily Larkin was in a contest, two voice ensembles and one solo. In the solo she sang an Italian opera number and received a Superior rating with the judge's noting that she had "a very mature sound for your age."

I also heard that Andy Cuda and Leigh Cuda have been chosen for unique honors. I'll let you know more about that in the next issue so look for it.

No, no new pictures.